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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 115<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

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No. 23

## House of Representatives

The House met at 2:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

February 9, 2017.

I hereby appoint the Honorable THOMAS J. ROONEY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

Reverend William Gurnee, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

O Lord, who founded the Earth and determined its size; who commanded the morning and shown the dawn its place, we sing with gratitude for the gifts of life and truth.

We humbly beg wisdom and prudence for those who work in this Chamber.

May the laws of this Nation be a mirror of Your will.

Give the Members the virtue of courage in difficult times, the virtue of charity in all times and at the end of the day, the certain knowledge that they have served their country well.

We ask all things in Your Holy Name.

Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. TOM PRICE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO CONGRESSIONAL-EXECUTIVE COMMISSION ON THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 6913, and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China:

Mr. SMITH, New Jersey, Co-Chairman  
Mr. PITTENGER, North Carolina  
Mr. FRANKS, Arizona  
Mr. HULTGREN, Illinois

### APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BRITISH-AMERICAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2761, and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, of the following Member on the part of the House to the British-American Interparliamentary Group:

Mr. COLE, Oklahoma

### APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's ap-

pointment, pursuant to section 4 of the Virgin Islands of the United States Centennial Commission Act (Pub. L. 114-224), and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Virgin Islands of the United States Centennial Commission:

Mr. MACARTHUR, New Jersey  
Mrs. LOVE, Utah

### APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO HOUSE DEMOCRACY PARTNERSHIP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 4(a) of House Resolution 5, 115th Congress, and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, of the following Members to the House Democracy Partnership:

Mr. BUCHANAN, Florida  
Mr. FORTENBERRY, Nebraska  
Mr. CONAWAY, Texas  
Mrs. WALORSKI, Indiana  
Mr. SMITH, Nebraska  
Mr. KNIGHT, California  
Mr. RICE, South Carolina  
Mr. WOMACK, Arkansas  
Mr. WOODALL, Georgia  
Mr. FLORES, Texas

### APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO CANADA-UNITED STATES INTER-PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group:

Mr. HUIZENGA, Michigan, Chairman  
Mr. YOUNG, Alaska  
Mr. POLIQUIN, Maine  
Mr. CRAMER, North Dakota

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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# APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO MEXICO-UNITED STATES INTER-PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276h and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group:

Mr. MCCAUL, Texas, Chairman  
Mr. DUFFY, Wisconsin, Vice-Chairman  
Mr. HURD, Texas  
Mr. PEARCE, New Mexico

# APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 2(a) of the National Cultural Center Act (20 U.S.C. 76h(a)), amended by Public Law 107-117, and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts:

Mrs. COMSTOCK, Virginia

# APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO NATIONAL HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS AND RECORDS COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 2501, and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, of the following Member on the part of the House to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission:

Mr. MEADOWS, North Carolina

# APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUAL TO WESTERN HEMISPHERE DRUG POLICY COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 603 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Pub. L. 114-323), and order of the House of January 3, 2017, of the following individual on the part of the House to the Western Hemisphere Drug Policy Commission:

Ms. Mary Bono, Washington, D.C.

# APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 6968(a), and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Naval Academy:

Mr. MURPHY, Pennsylvania

Mr. DeSANTIS, Florida

# APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL COUNCIL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 2302, and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, of the following Members on the part of the House to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council:

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Florida  
Mr. ZELDIN, New York  
Mr. KUSTOFF, Tennessee

# APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO PRESIDENT'S EXPORT COUNCIL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to Executive Order 12131, and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, of the following Members on the part of the House to the President's Export Council:

Mr. TIBERI, Ohio  
Mr. KELLY, Pennsylvania  
Mr. REICHERT, Washington

# COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, February 8, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,  
*The Speaker, House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on February 8, 2017, at 2:25 p.m.:

Appointments:  
Library of Congress Trust Fund Board.  
With best wishes, I am,  
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

# COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, February 9, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,  
*The Speaker, House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on February 9, 2017, at 11:23 a.m.:

Appointments:  
Library of Congress Trust Fund Board.  
United States Semiquincentennial Commission.

Congressional advisors on trade policy and negotiations to International conferences,

meetings and negotiation sessions relating to trade agreements.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

# PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE RULES

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES FOR THE 115TH CONGRESS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,  
Washington, DC, February 9, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,  
*Speaker, House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to clause 2(a)(2) of House of Representatives Rule XI, I submit the rules of the Committee on Natural Resources for publication in the Congressional Record. The rules were adopted by a quorum of the Committee at its organizational meeting on February 7, 2017.

Sincerely,

ROB BISHOP,  
*Chairman.*

Enclosure.

(Adopted February 7, 2017)

RULE 1. RULES OF THE HOUSE; VICE CHAIRMEN  
(a) Applicability of House Rules.

(1) The Rules of the House of Representatives, so far as they are applicable, are the rules of the Committee on Natural Resources (hereinafter in these rules referred to as the "Committee") and its Subcommittees.

(2) Each Subcommittee is part of the Committee and is subject to the authority, direction and rules of the Committee. References in these rules to "Committee" and "Chairman" shall apply to each Subcommittee and its Chairman wherever applicable.

(3) House Rule XI is incorporated and made a part of the rules of the Committee to the extent applicable.

(b) Vice Chairmen.—Unless inconsistent with other rules, the Chairman shall appoint Vice Chairmen of the Committee and the Subcommittees. If the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee is not present at any meeting of the Committee or Subcommittee, as the case may be, the Vice Chairman shall preside. If the Vice Chairman is not present, the ranking Member of the Majority party on the Committee or Subcommittee who is present shall preside at that meeting.

# RULE 2. MEETINGS IN GENERAL

(a) Scheduled Meetings.—The Committee shall meet at 10 a.m. the first Wednesday of each month when the House is in session if so noticed by the Chairman under Committee Rule 3(a). The Committee shall also meet at the call of the Chairman subject to advance notice to all Members of the Committee. Special meetings shall be called and convened by the Chairman as provided in clause 2(c)(1) of House Rule XI. Any Committee meeting or hearing that conflicts with a party caucus, conference, or similar party meeting shall be rescheduled at the discretion of the Chairman, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member. The Committee may not sit during a joint session of the House and Senate or during a recess when a joint meeting of the House and Senate is in progress.

(b) Open Meetings.—Each meeting for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, and each hearing of the Committee or a Subcommittee shall be open to the public, except as provided by clause 2(g) and clause 2(k) of House Rule XI.

(c) Broadcasting.—Whenever a meeting for the transaction of business, including the